

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, I was unfortunately not present for roll call vote 149 on agreeing to H. Res. 275, Condemning the horrific shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 16, 2021, and reaffirming the House of Representative's commitment to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community. I fully condemn the shootings in Atlanta on March 16, 2021, and stand fully committed to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted AYE on roll call vote 149.

## RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOHN MARSHALL BRANCH

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain John Marshall Branch for twenty-six years of exceptional service to our country.

Captain Branch was commissioned in 1995 after earning a Bachelor of Science in Management from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

Since then, he has over three thousand and five hundred hours of flight experience, served at six air stations, and deployed to six of the seven continents.

From 2016 to 2018, Captain Branch served as the Commanding Officer of Air Station Savannah, successfully supporting hurricane and disaster response, search and rescue, and law enforcement in the southeast, as well as air-space protection for the President and National Capital Region.

Captain Branch has a long list of military accomplishments, including the Korea Defense Service Medal, two Commendation medals, the Antarctic Service Medal, and the Achievement Medal, amongst others.

I am proud to rise today to honor Captain Branch for his leadership, and commitment to our country. I want to thank Captain Branch and his family for his service.

## INTRODUCING HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL POPPY DAY

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to re-introduce a resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Poppy Day, May 28. The importance of this day cannot be overstated. It's a day full of respect and remembrance for servicemembers who sacrificed so much for our Nation. The poppy flower has long been a marker of respect and a way to raise awareness and support for members of our Nation's veterans communities, servicemembers, and their families. On May 28, we share our respect for their work on behalf of our country by acknowledging the poppy flower's symbolism, and by recognizing their sacrifices—all by donning our "poppy red."

The red-flowered corn poppy became symbolic as a living representation of the brave soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice on the fields of battle in World War I. Since that time, the red of the poppy flower—itsself a symbol of the blood shed by those who have served—has been worn as a gesture of gratitude and recognition of others' respective sacrifices for their country, in different theaters of war.

In the United States, The American Legion—and the entire American Legion Family—first called attention in 1920 to the symbolic importance of the poppy flower. At that time, near the end of the war, red-flowered corn poppies were especially linked to the poem *In Flanders Fields*, which reads:

"In Flanders Fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row"

This reference, evoking images of the poppies that sprang up in the churned-up earth of newly dug soldiers' graves in parts of Belgium and France following World War I, encapsulates the symbolic importance of National Poppy Day.

I am proud to have partnered with The American Legion on this bill as their headquarters is in Indianapolis, in my district, and we invite all Members of Congress to wear their poppy red, support the goal and ideals of National Poppy Day on May 28, and pay tribute to those who have sacrificed for our country. I also invite all of my colleagues to join me in sponsoring this resolution.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE WOMEN WHO WORKED ON THE HOME FRONT WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Women Who Worked on the Home Front World War II Memorial Act, which would authorize the establishment of a memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia commemorating the efforts of the 18 million American women who kept the home front running during World War II. I thank Senators TAMMY DUCKWORTH and MARSHA BLACKBURN for introducing the companion bill in the Senate. The House passed this bill by voice vote last Congress.

As a teenager, Raya Kenney, the founder of the non-profit Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation and my constituent, came up with the idea of a memorial to honor the women on the home front who supported the World War II effort. She rightfully questioned why the women on the home front whose efforts were so instrumental in maintaining the stability of the country during World War II have not received as much recognition for their contributions as the men who fought bravely in World War II.

This bill would authorize the Women Who Worked on the Home Front Foundation to establish a memorial to honor these women. The memorial is designed to be interactive and to educate visitors on the important roles women played during World War II. Between 1940 and 1945, the percentage of women in the workforce increased from 27 percent to nearly 37 percent, and by 1945 one in four married women worked outside of the home. The work done by women on the home front opened doors for women in the workplace widely and had a profound effect on the job market going forward. As a result of their efforts, millions of American women on the home front redefined "women's work" and paved the way for future generations.

Many women also played critical roles in support of the war effort. More than 10,000 women served behind the scenes of World War II as code breakers. Due to the classified nature of their work, they did not receive recognition for their tireless efforts until recently. Women were also trained to fly military aircraft so male pilots could leave for combat duty overseas. More than 1,100 female civilian volunteers flew nearly every type of military aircraft as part of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) program. WASP flew planes from factories to bases, transported cargo and participated in simulation strafing and target missions. These women were not given full military status until 1977, and it was not until 2010 that they were recognized with the Congressional Gold Medal.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Women have been historically underrepresented in our memorials, particularly the memorials on federal land in the nation's capital. It is fitting to authorize a memorial that would allow millions of visitors to D.C. to understand and honor the heroic efforts of these women and their lasting impact on the fabric of our society.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

**RECOGNIZING MR. RAVINDER  
SINGH SHERGILL**

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Mr. Ravinder Singh Shergill, who passed away on April 22, 2021.

Mr. Shergill was born on September 12, 1956, in Punjab, India. At the age of seventeen, he immigrated to the United States and later graduated from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He went on to work for National Semiconductor for more than three decades. As an engineer, Mr. Shergill held patents involving disk storage and helped create the USB specifications. As a manager, he admired and respected as a mentor to his colleagues. His story is truly an embodiment of the American Dream.

Mr. Shergill had a great appreciation for America, but he never forgot his roots. He was committed to bridging the Sikh and American communities together and was a founding member of the Sikh Youth of California and America.

Mr. Shergill is remembered as a caring husband, father, and grandfather with a love for books, history, music, and film. He is survived by his wife, Grace Rosa; his children, Simren, Kiren, and Kevan; and his grandchildren Leena, Mary, Samuel, and Briya.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Ravinder Singh Shergill. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

**HONORING NEW YORK'S BRAVE  
FIRST RESPONDERS, PARA-  
MEDICS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
TECHNICIANS**

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor New York's brave First Responders, Paramedics, and Emergency Medical Technicians as we celebrate National Emergency Medical Services Week. I recognize the great impact and sacrifice our EMS providers make to keep our communities safe.

EMS systems provide lifesaving care and are an integral part of our communities'

wellbeing. Emergency medical responders are first on the scene of what is often the worst days of people's lives. Despite the great physical and mental toll, EMS providers continuously put the care of others before themselves. Their selfless perseverance and rigorous training allow them to be prepared for any situation. I am profoundly grateful for all those who choose to serve our community in this way.

The 21st Congressional District of New York is home to the oldest continuously run commercial ambulance service in the country. Guilfoyle Ambulance was established in 1907 and is currently owned and operated by Bruce G. Wright. The first ambulance was a horse drawn carriage and the business now boasts 16 ambulances. Today, Guilfoyle is certified at the Paramedic level and provides basic and advanced life support transportation as well as Paramedic service for over 8,500 requests and over 600 transports each year. The company operates in the majority of Jefferson County, including Fort Drum, as well as in some neighboring towns in St. Lawrence, Lewis, and Oswego Counties. Guilfoyle is just one of the many critical components of our EMS systems in the 21st District.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am proud to represent thousands of hardworking EMS providers and I am honored to recognize them on this National Emergency Medical Services Week. I thank them for safeguarding our community.

**CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF  
COLORADO'S SENIOR STRATEGIC  
ADVISOR AND FORMER VICE  
CHANCELLOR, FRANCES DRAPER,  
ON HER RETIREMENT**

**HON. JOE NEGUSE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor and thank a Boulder Colorado trailblazer: Frances Draper. It's hard to distill such a luminous human into a few short paragraphs. Frances is equal parts tough and kind; cooperative and indomitable; pragmatic and optimistic. "There's a pony in here for everyone," is Frances's way of pointing out that by working together—by seeking to collaborate rather than divide—we can almost always get to win-win outcomes.

In her role at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Frances reimagined and transformed the way that the city and the University collaborate, and ushered in a spirit of teamwork in town-and-gown relations that serves as a model for our Nation. She has served as a beacon of opportunity and decency in our community, representing the university and the city with honor, integrity and humanity.

Prior to joining the university, Frances was Executive Director of the Boulder Economic Council, manager of the Sun Microsystems business and finance line for General Electric, and a legislative aide to Harrison Schmidt, U.S. Senator from New Mexico. Frances has lived in Boulder for close to 40 years, during which time she served on crucial local boards such as Foothills United Way, Naturally Boul-

der, I Have a Dream, and Boulder Rotary. She was also instrumental in establishing CO-Labs, a consortium of Colorado-based research laboratories.

Neither the city of Boulder, nor the University of Colorado-Boulder, would be what they are today without Frances' wisdom, generosity, and tireless advocacy. Frances is the kind of person who makes the world a better place as she goes, and in doing so, inspires those around her to rise similarly to that endeavor. Boulderites and CU Buffs will forever stand on Frances' shoulders, and on the shoulders of those she inspires. On behalf of Colorado CD-2, I thank and honor Frances Draper for her countless contributions to our community.

**RECOGNIZING MAY AS SAVE YOUR  
TOOTH MONTH**

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Save Your Tooth Month. This month celebrates Americans saving their natural teeth and recognizes the "savers"—endodontists—who make this possible.

The more than 5,000 endodontists in the U.S. play an important role in providing oral health care throughout our country, spread awareness about practicing good oral hygiene, and emphasize the value of retaining one's natural teeth and smile.

Endodontists are dentists that specialize in diagnosing and treating tooth pain and performing root canal treatment. Following the dental school, endodontists have completed an additional 2 to 3 years of advanced training. This gives them enhanced precision, making them highly skilled in performing complex treatments.

Teeth are a gateway to nutrition, a sign of emotion, and a signal of overall good health. We all feel better when our teeth are clean and pain-free. And although dentures can work well and have improved significantly, they are never as good as a full set of natural teeth. Our natural teeth are worth saving, and endodontists focus their careers solely on doing just that.

Nothing looks, feels, or functions like your natural tooth. Regular brushing and flossing, along with 6-month check-ups from your dentist, can help you keep your teeth for a lifetime. It is worth the extra few minutes each day to maintain good oral hygiene.

If you do experience issues with your teeth, seek out proper dental care. In particular, if you have tooth pain, you can seek treatment from an endodontist. Endodontists use the most current and advanced technology to treat dental patients.

It should be noted that it is extremely safe to visit the endodontist during the COVID-19 pandemic, with endodontists practicing the utmost caution and disinfection protocol. Even at the height of America's spring 2020 shutdown, most endodontic practices remained open to safely treat dental emergencies.

Thank you to all the endodontists for your dedicated work in helping us maintain our natural teeth. Happy Save Your Tooth Month.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAUPACA FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Waupaca Fire Department. The Waupaca Fire Department was formed shortly after the founding of the city of Waupaca on May 11th, 1871. As the Waupaca community celebrates this milestone, we look back on the outstanding history of the department and critical role they have played in the community. Throughout their history the department has grown immensely and now provides service to approximately 150 square miles. For 150 years, the department has remained committed to serving the city of Waupaca and surrounding communities to the highest degree. In total, the Waupaca Fire Department's Fire Inspection Division works incredibly hard to keep the community safe, conducting an impressive 550 inspections for commercial business in 2019 alone. Their work demonstrates not only the amount of expertise and knowledge the department holds, but the importance the department places on keeping their communities safe.

Over the last 150 years, the department has faced many challenges, but their efforts to give back to the community have never wavered. From participating in the Annual Battle of the Badges Softball Tournament, where the Fire Department takes on the Police Department, to hosting corn roasts and raffles, the Waupaca Fire Department is a true pillar of the community and Northeast Wisconsin. Many Waupaca families have benefited from the department's thoughtfulness and generosity. When the department is not fighting fires and saving lives, their members donate their time and efforts to making Waupaca a better place. The department played a key role in countless improvements around the city, such as the playground in South Park and the construction of multiple shelter homes. I commend the department's dedication and commitment to the Waupaca community. The Waupaca Fire Department supplies the community with incredibly trained individuals who are able to handle fire and other emergencies at a moment's notice. It is evident that the knowledge, dedication, and perseverance conveyed through the men and women of this department are deserving of the highest degree of admiration.

I invite all members of this body to join me in celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Waupaca Fire Department. The Waupaca Fire Department is a true credit to the community and deserving of the highest degree of recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE WEST COAST UNIVERSITY—TEXAS HEALTHCARE HEROES APPRECIATION

**HON. BETH VAN DUYNE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of the

U.S. House of Representatives and all of the communities that Dallas Medical Center and Dallas Regional Medical Center serve, and the West Coast University—Texas students pursuing careers in healthcare at a time when we need them more than ever, it is an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to personally thank them and all of our healthcare heroes for their service and selfless acts of caregiving during this pandemic.

These frontline caregivers demonstrate tremendous courage and put themselves on the line every day to ensure the health and safety of our community.

During the last 15 months, the effects of the Covid pandemic required a personal sacrifice from each one of them unlike any other time in our country's history. These frontline healthcare workers experienced long, long hours for months on end, caring for thousands of critical patients, and losing more life than anyone can bear to witness.

These nurses and staff provided care for others while worried about their own health and the well-being of their family. Yet, they came to work every day.

For their uncommon bravery and resilience, I say "thank you!"

To express this appreciation, these certificates commemorate the healthcare heroes at Dallas Medical Center and Dallas Regional Medical Center.

In addition, I have another certificate to recognize the students of West Coast University—Texas, which focuses on educating and training the next generation of nurses and healthcare workers. These students have chosen to pursue careers in healthcare despite witnessing one of the most challenging times in the history of their profession. I have deep respect for their courage and service to our community.

Words are not enough to express the gratitude that I feel for the healthcare workers throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the State of Texas, and across the country.

All of them deserve to be honored and celebrated.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN STELLA MELANSON

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain Stella Melanson for her remarkable career with the Hinesville Police Department.

Captain Melanson began working at the Hinesville Police Department in 1976 and became Hinesville's first certified female peace officer.

Over the past 43 years there has not been one area of the police department that Captain Melanson has not been involved in.

She has served on patrol, within the Detective's Division, Administrative Services Division, and was a founding member of the Tri-County Protective Agency for domestic violence victims. Captain Melanson would humbly argue that she does not play a big role within the police department, but her lifelong service proves otherwise.

During her time, she has provided the Hinesville Police Department with tremendous leadership and management.

She has dedicated her life to protecting and serving others and I thank her for her 43 years of service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION ACT OF 2021

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, today I join my colleagues, Rep. DON YOUNG of Alaska, Chairman Emeritus of the Transportation Committee, and Rep. RICK LARSEN, Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee, in re-introducing the bipartisan and bicameral National Center for the Advancement of Aviation Act of 2021. Our committee has worked for years to make American skies the safest in the world, and to strengthen the industry workforce to maintain the highest standards of aviation excellence.

Our legislation, the National Center for the Advancement of Aviation (NCAA) would support and promote collaboration amongst civil, commercial, and military aviation sectors to address the demands and challenges associated with ensuring a safe and vibrant national aviation system through research, education, and training.

Too often in the past, innovation and lessons learned in various aviation sectors has not been shared in a collaboratively or timely manner, especially considering rapid developments in new technology. Our bill helps break down silos across commercial aviation, general aviation and military aviation sectors that will not only improve safety and best practices, but also expand opportunities for those interested in the aviation workforce—for the young and not so young, from those just starting out, to those with experience who want to move into other types of aviation work.

The National Center would focus on four key areas with an emphasis on aviation workforce development. First, it would support education efforts and provide resources to curriculum developers so educators at all levels have the tools and training to educate the next generation of aviation professionals.

Second, the national center would provide a forum to leverage and share expertise amongst industry sectors including the dissemination of existing high school education curriculum to develop and deploy a workforce of pilots, aerospace engineers, unmanned aircraft system operators, aviation maintenance technicians, or other aviation maintenance professionals needed in the coming decades.

Third, it would serve as a central repository for economic and safety data research and analysis allowing a comprehensive perspective of industry information that would improve safety for all stakeholders.

Finally, it would support symposiums and conferences to facilitate collaboration across the industry and develop future advancements for the aviation and aerospace community.

This legislation would also allow the FAA to focus on safety, certification, and air traffic operations.

The national center would be funded by using a small percentage of the interest accrued annually on the taxes and fees collected from users of our aviation system and deposited into the aviation trust fund. In other words,

no general fund taxpayer dollars would be used to support this national center.

Our aviation and aerospace industry supports over 11 million jobs and contributes more than \$1.6 trillion per year to the national economy. More than 130 organizations including schools, airports, airlines, manufacturers, unions, and other entities involved in aviation and aerospace have expressed strong support for this legislation. The list of organizations supporting this legislation are as follows:

AAR Corp; ACI Jet; Aeronautical Repair Station Association; Aerospace Center of Excellence; Aerospace Maintenance Council; Air Care Alliance; Air Line Pilots Association, International; Air Medical Operators Association; Air Wisconsin Airlines; Airbus; Aircraft Electronics Association; Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association; Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Airlines for America; Alabama General Aviation Alliance; Alaska Airlines; Alaska Airmen Association; Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation; Alliance for Aviation Across America; Allied Pilots Association.

American Airlines; American Bonanza Society; American Yankee Association; Arizona Airports Association; Arizona Flight Training Working group; Arizona Pilots Association; Arizona Safety Advisory Group; Arkansas General Aviation Association; Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International; Association of California Airports; Atlas Air Worldwide; Aviation Council of Pennsylvania; Aviation Technician Education Council; California Pilots Association; Cape Air; Cargo Airline Association; Cessna Flyer Association; Choose Aerospace, Inc.; Citation Jet Pilots, Inc.; Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations.

Colorado Aviation Business Association; Commemorative Air Force; Community and Airport Partnership for Safe Operations; CommutAir; Compass Airlines; Delta Air Lines; Delta State University; EAA Type Club Coalition; EAA Warbirds of America; East Central Ohio Pilots Association; East Hampton Aviation Association; Empire Airlines; Endeavor Air; Envoy Air; EVAC, the Emergency Volunteers Air Corps; Experimental Aircraft Association; ExpressJet Airlines; FAST; FedEx Express; Flight School Association of North America.

Flying Knights Flying Club; Flying Physicians Association; Friends of Linden Airport; Fullerton Airport Pilots Association; General Aviation Council of Hawaii; General Aviation Manufacturers Association; Glasair Aircraft Owners Association; GoJet Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Helicopter Association International; Horizon Air; International Air Transport Association; International Council of Air Shows, Inc.; Iowa Aviation Association; Kentucky Aviation Association; Kimmel Aviation Insurance; Ladd Gardner Aviation Insurance, Inc.; Lancair Owners and Builders Organization; Lewis University Airport; LIFT Academy.

Long Island Business Aviation Association; Los Alamos Airport; Louisiana Airport Managers and Associates; Maine Aeronautics Association; Maine Aviation Business Association; Massachusetts Airport Management Association; Michigan Business Aviation Association; Minnesota Pilots Association; Minnesota Seaplane Pilots Association; Mississippi Agricultural Association; Montana Pilots Association; Mooney Summit, Inc.; National Agricultural Aviation Association; National Air Traffic Controllers Association; National Air Transportation Association; National Association of State Aviation Officials; National Business Aviation Association; National Coalition for Aviation and Space Education NetJets; NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots; New Hamp-

shire Pilots Association; New Jersey Aviation Association.

New Mexico Airport Manager's Association; New York Aviation Management Association; North American Trainer Association; Ohio Regional Business Aviation Association; Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission; Oklahoma Airport Operators Association; Oklahoma Pilots Association; Oregon Pilots Association; Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals; Palo Alto Airport Association; Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum; Petaluma Area Pilots Association; Piedmont Airlines; Piper Flyer Association; Plane and Pilot News; Professional Aviation Maintenance Association; PSA Airlines; Pure White Smoke Oil, Inc.; Recreational Aviation Foundation; Red Star Pilots Association; Regional Airline Association; Republic Airways; Rhode Island Pilots Association.

San Carlos Pilots Association; San Diego Christian College; Seaplane Pilots Association; South Carolina Aviation Association; South Dakota Pilots Association; Southwest Airlines; Southwest Airlines Pilots Association; Start Skydiving, Inc.; Sturdivant Brothers Flying Service; T-34 Mentor Association; The Boeing Company; The Museum of Flight, Seattle, Washington; Trans States Airlines; U.S. Contract Tower Association; U.S. Parachute Association; United Airlines; UPS; Veterans Airlift Command; Virginia Aviation Business Association; Washington Pilots Association; Washington Seaplane Pilots Association; Women in Aviation International; Zerowait, Inc.

Madam Speaker, this legislation will address the demands and challenges our aviation and aerospace industry face today and tomorrow. I strongly encourage my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring the National Center for the Advancement of Aviation Act of 2021.

#### CALLING ON THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH LEGISLATION

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the dire need for Congress to continue building upon recent investments in mental health care.

The American Rescue Plan funding for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is commendable but Congress must hone its focus to address this ongoing crisis by working to create and pass comprehensive mental health legislation.

I, alongside Members of the Congressional Mental Health Caucus and the Bipartisan Mental Health and Addiction Taskforce, are working to pull together key pieces of legislation to establish a comprehensive Mental Health Crisis Response Act.

I ask my colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans, to please work with us and send bills our way to present to leadership and the White House, as the fundamentals of our social economy depend on the good health of our citizenry and their ability to access quality and affordable behavioral health services.

Throughout my 38 years in Congress, I have heard countless stories from constituents who face barriers when accessing essential mental health services. We must work to overcome these issues.

Further, we must enhance our Nation's capacity to address the negative social and

physical determinants of health that cause trauma and behavioral health problems, as well as deploy more effective upstream prevention strategies.

It's past time for Congress to take meaningful action, targeting provider shortages, reimbursement parity, housing support, treatment, and increased Federal funding to push the bounds of Federal research.

Full recovery from the pandemic will be contingent upon addressing the behavioral health conditions of our population, because mental health is public health.

#### HONORING BLACK DOCTORS COVID-19 CONSORTIUM

#### HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. EVANS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium who leveraged their medical expertise and connections to facilitate testing and provide vaccines where measures are most needed in the Philadelphia region. They stepped up to level the playing field by testing and vaccinating thousands of people in at-risk communities.

Surgeon Ala Stanford along with a dedicated team of volunteers have sought to eliminate health disparities during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium was founded by Dr. Stanford in the spring of 2020, to address the lack of Covid-19 testing in low-income and communities of color in Philadelphia, who also happened to have the highest positivity rates. Their efforts undoubtedly saved countless lives.

Dr. Stanford left her role as a pediatric surgeon to dedicate her time to aggressively confront the growing health disparities in Black communities during the pandemic. According to the Centers for Disease Control—Black patients represent 22 percent of Covid cases and are 2.8 times more likely to be hospitalized and 1.9 times more likely to die due to Covid-19 as compared to White Americans. These stark figures are what drove Dr. Stanford to create the formation of BDCC. She declared, "There was no testing in communities where people were dying the most. So, we created it." Her work has been invaluable to the city of Philadelphia, particularly for low-income and vulnerable residents.

The consortium has tested more than 25,000 people and vaccinated more than 50,000 Philadelphians at 50 clinics. It also offers home vaccinations for people who can't access clinics. These services have been provided free to the public. They have recently partnered with Uber to provide 10,000 free rides aimed at helping people get to and from BDCC sites. Their work has drawn praise from the Biden's administration top health officials. "She is the perfect example of how a community member can stand up and lead during a time of crisis," Surgeon General Vivek Murthy said.

The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium held a "vaxathon" a 24-hour, walk-up vaccine site, which saw a massive turnout. The group vaccinated nearly 4,000 people, 75 percent of whom were people of color. It was a wildly successful event designed to increase the

number of vaccinations given to Black Philadelphians and to reduce the vaccination disparity between White and Black Philadelphians.

Dr. Ala Stanford is the recipient of several awards including the Health Equality Advocate award, and she is a decorated and revered physician who is considered a champion for health equity and access. She is a native of North Philadelphia who pours her all into creating wellness outcomes for her communities. Her accolades are lengthy, and she's the first Black woman pediatric surgeon trained entirely in the United States. She's board certified by the American Board of Surgery in both pediatric and adult surgery.

With all her accomplishments and community work, Dr. Stanford has received a great deal of national media attention for her phenomenal work with the BDCC in providing care during the pandemic. Her work is regarded as a model for sound community health engagement. Assistant U.S. Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levin stated: "The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium is such a fantastic example of how we're going to reach individuals in their communities with messages from people that they know and people that they trust—trusted messengers like Dr. Stanford."

The Third Congressional District of Pennsylvania extends gratitude to the Black Doctors COVID-19 and Dr. Ala Stanford for their dedicated support and extraordinary service to the people of Philadelphia in their effort to provide testing and expand access and equitable distribution of the coronavirus vaccine.

#### HONORING ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN SAN ANTONIO

#### HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in San Antonio, Texas, and across the United States. Since 1977, every May, we celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of AAPI communities. Though a modest population, we have a vibrant community of AAPIs in San Antonio that contribute greatly to our city's prosperity.

Since 1860s, immigrants of Asian descent began migrating to Texas and Southwestern States and today the AAPI community account for 5 percent of the total population in Texas, and it's one of the fastest growing communities in the United States. Like many immigrants, Asian Americans were often unwelcome and suffered racism and discrimination. For example, the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 prohibited individuals arriving or staying in the United States solely based on their ethnicity.

Today, AAPI communities continue to face discrimination and even violence, which is often underreported. During COVID-19, hate crimes against AAPIs have grown exponentially and the community is still living in fear. In recognition of the continued threats that AAPI communities endure, Congress passed legislation that President Biden signed into law to ensure hate crimes against AAPIs are in-

vestigated and prosecuted. Our Nation must come together and work to address centuries of discrimination that impedes our Nation from its full promise of equality and justice for all.

Over the generations, AAPI communities have made significant contributions in the arts, government, business, medicine, and education. In San Antonio, our city is led by Ron Nirenberg, the city's first mayor of Asian descent. I'm also particularly proud of AAPI veterans, including 33 individuals who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, and also AAPI men and women who serve our Nation in uniform.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful for our Nation's AAPI communities, and I am proud to recognize their accomplishments. Thank you.

#### MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

#### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor each and every person who wears a uniform or has served in our country's Armed Forces and celebrate National Military Appreciation Month.

My home state of Hawaii is home to over 142,000 military members, family and support personnel, making it the largest and most important multi-service military 'ohana in the IndoPacific. We are deeply grateful to those who are regularly deployed to protect our Hawaii, along with the many more who are proud to volunteer their time, skills and abilities to the task of making our country and our world a better place for all.

Just as crucial to the fabric of Hawaii's military community is the more than 108,000 veterans who call Hawaii home. These men and women served with honor, and we must always ensure they are provided with the benefits they so rightfully earned and deserve.

I also want to extend my enduring gratitude to the families of our soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen and guardsmen who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation.

Freedom, justice equality—these are the values that the men and women of our Armed Forces are charged to preserve and protect. Each of us owes our very best efforts to ensure that America's servicemembers can defend our values. We must make sure they are mission-ready, with the training and equipment necessary to carry out their duties here in our country and overseas.

As a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies, I am dedicated to properly supporting our present military members and their families and fulfilling the promises made to our veterans. Their service deserves our nation's respect and recognition not just for this month—but every day.

Move forward with strength (Imua).

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for votes on May 13, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 138, and NAY on Roll Call No. 141.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO COMMEMORATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

#### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce legislation to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Federal Protective Service (FPS) in recognition of their service to our Nation. After passing the Capitol security bill in this Chamber earlier this week, it is only natural that we highlight the work of our protection agencies and their commitment to the Federal workforce. As a former law enforcement officer, I understand the pivotal role of security today more than ever. Following the U.S. Capitol attacks on January 6, we witnessed firsthand how important it is to have law enforcement agencies like FPS to protect our Federal facilities and workforce.

For half a century, FPS has served and protected the American people and government business with honor, integrity, and commitment. Since its inception in 1971, FPS has contributed to the protection of people and property in the Federal Government by identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities through risk assessments, law enforcement, intelligence analysis, and security measures. Two major acts of terror against the United States have shaped FPS to anticipate emerging threats more effectively: the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995, and the terror attacks on September 11. Today, FPS provides the Department of Homeland Security Secretary with a highly trained, nationwide force that can support needs in countering emerging or existing threats and terrorism, within the boundaries of our Nation and territories. It is also responsible for protecting over 9,000 facilities and more than 1.4 million people who work, visit, or conduct business at these facilities each day.

FPS has shown that it is a leader within the law enforcement and protection community. It is their work and dedication that brings us closer to the vision of a Federal workforce and workplace that is safe, secure, and resilient moving forward.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing one of our Nation's most critical Federal agencies.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING  
MARY LOTT WALKER**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Mary Lott Walker of Blackshear, Georgia who passed away on May 12th at the age of 85.

Mary loved her city of Blackshear, her state of Georgia, and her country the United States of America devotedly.

After graduating from Georgia State College for Women, Mary began her influential career in public education.

Mary was also involved in politics, becoming the first woman in Blackshear to serve as Mayor pro-term. Through her work in Georgian education, politics, and historical preservation, Mary inspired young people to achieve greatness.

Above all, she devoted more than 67 years of membership and leadership to the Blackshear Presbyterian Church.

Mary's profound community impacts will be felt for generations to come.

My thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and all who knew her during this most difficult time.

HONORING GOVERNOR CARLOS  
ROMERO-BARCELÓ**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I rise concerning the passing of my long-time friend and a great leader, Carlos Romero-Barceló, former governor of Puerto Rico. Carlos passed away on May 2, 2021 at the age of 88. I offer my deepest condolences to his family and loved ones, as well as those whose lives he impacted during his tenure.

Carlos Romero-Barceló was a timeless crusader for Puerto Rico. Throughout his life, he led the fight for equal recognition of Puerto Ricans, and I was especially proud to work with him while he served as the Resident Commissioner for the island in Congress.

Carlos lived a life of public service for Puerto Rico. He served as Mayor of San Juan and then as Governor before being elected to be Resident Commissioner for Puerto Rico in 1992. He dedicated his life to achieve equal rights for the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico. I was truly honored to know him and call him a friend.

I was proud to serve with him on the House Natural Resources Committee. There we worked together advocating for Puerto Rico, and I was proud to support his efforts to achieve equality for the U.S. Citizens of Puerto Rico. His tireless work deepened Puerto Rico's relationship with the United States, and I was proud to stand by him as a leader of the island.

We honor his legacy and mourn his loss alongside his family—his wife Kathleen, and his children Carlos, Andres, Juan Carlos, and Melinda—and our friends, the people of Puerto Rico.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR.  
RICHARD BATES**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Richard Bates, who passed away outside Washington, D.C., on December 31, 2020. He was a beloved husband, father, and community member.

Mr. Bates was born in Washington, D.C., on September 2, 1950 to Can and Sylvia Bates. In 1978, he married his best friend and the love of his life, Rose Bates. He served as executive director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee before joining the Walt Disney Company, where he worked for 30 years. He opened Disney's first Washington, D.C., office, and served as the Senior Vice President of Government Relations.

Richard's loved ones, friends, and colleagues remember him for his compassion, sense of humor, and kindness. He was a passionate advocate for the creative industries and was well-respected for his skill and knowledge in his field. In 2018, he was elected to the board of trustees of an advocacy organization fighting for free speech and working in communications policy issues, the Media Institute. Most importantly, he was dedicated to his friends and family, and inspired those around him to do what they love and follow their dreams.

Richard is survived by his wife, Rose; two sons, Ricky (Noelle) and Chris; brother, Robert (Judith); and other relatives. He will also be missed by his canine-granddaughter, Betty.

HONORING IRIS TUN AS IOWAN OF  
THE WEEK**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of our community, Iris Tun, by naming her for Iowan of the Week.

Iris is a co-founder and a family advocate at the Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC) of Iowa, which is Iowa's first and only refugee-led service provider that strives to address shared issues and uplift all refugee communities.

Refugees from Burma began arriving in Iowa in 2007 and 2008 as a priority class of refugees, part of the nearly 1.5 million refugees that have fled Burma since the early 1960s. EMBARC was created in 2012 to help these new refugees settle into Iowa. At first, Iris helped the team provide resources and videos translated from English to Burmese and Karen, but their operation has since expanded.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, EMBARC Iowa got to work creating videos and informational resources about the COVID-19 virus and aid that was available in 13 different languages to help those who had lost jobs, facing eviction and struggling with virtual schooling. Over the past year, more than 8,000 refugees and immigrants have re-

ceived support from EMBARC and RISE AmeriCorps members—95 percent of whom were essential workers.

When Iris is not making videos for EMBARC Iowa, she translates voter registration forms at her church for free. In Iowa, it's illegal for the state to translate official government forms, including election forms, which makes it hard for non-fluent English speakers to collect voting information.

As we celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, it's important to note the difficulties the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities still face here in America. This week, the House passed the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act to highlight the increased violence Asian American and Pacific Islanders have encountered since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Iris's work is vital to putting an end to these hate crimes because her work as a translator allows folks to communicate and better understand each other. That's why I would like my colleagues to rise with me and recognize this exemplary woman, Iris Tun, as our Iowan of the Week.

## CONGRATULATING MASTER SERGEANT LOUIS C. GRAZIANO ON HIS DECREE AND MEDAL AS A CHEVALIER IN THE 'ORDRE NATIONAL DE LA LÉGIION D'HONNEUR'

**HON. JODY B. HICE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Master Sergeant Luciano "Louis" C. Graziano, a resident of the Tenth Congressional District of Georgia and the last known surviving witness to the German surrender of World War II. His story is truly incredible, and his contribution during his tour of duty with the U.S. Army in Europe is worthy of our nation's everlasting gratitude.

On June 6, 1944, D-Day, Louis was aboard a landing craft with his men and landed upon the sands of Omaha Beach in Normandy France. Once beached, Louis drove a truck full of gasoline onto the sand. With no place to go, he abandoned the vehicle and gathered his weapons to get into the fight. He took up a position at the base of a cliff and fired a burst from a flame thrower to take out a German machinegun nest.

But, Madam Speaker, further up the cliff were even more enemy machinegun nests. In quick thinking, Louis took a flare gun and fired a flare into those positions hoping to direct the fire of allied ships cruising just off the beach. The gun crews on the ships responded as hoped, unleashing their fire from larger caliber guns destroying those positions beyond.

Advancing beyond the shores of Normandy, the French city of St. Lo and Reims were soon liberated. It was in Reims that Louis's skill in his craft would come into play and eventually afford him a seat to history itself. Upon establishment of a command post within the heavily mined city, Louis was ordered to install General Eisenhower's phone line. This phone line was vital for the General's real time communication, helping to bring about a timelier allied victory.

As allied forces fought to reclaim the town of Bastogne, the Germans mounted a last-ditch counteroffensive known as the "Battle of the Bulge." In response, all troops were being mustered to come to the rescue of encircled troops near the Belgian town of Bastogne. In a dangerous mission, Louis and his Captain had to search and find the lost armored element. They suffered frostbite, but their effort was successful. After, Louis returned to Reims to recover.

Among the buildings in Reims, there was a "Little Red Schoolhouse" where General Eisenhower had his headquarters. It was there that the unconditional surrender of Germany was signed in the early morning hours of Monday, May 7, 1945. Louis was there, in the room, as General Yodl of the German Army signed the articles of surrender.

Madam Speaker, Louis has served our Nation with integrity, excellence, and courage, and we, as Americans, owe him an enormous debt of gratitude for his incredible sacrifices to serve and protect our country at home and abroad. He not only has earned the admiration of his fellow Americans but that of our allies as well. On April 6, 2021, French President Emmanuel Macron approved awarding him the French Legion d'honneur, which is the highest French order of merit that can be bestowed upon an individual. For these reasons, I am honored to represent him in Congress, and it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and legacy of Master Sergeant Luciano "Louis" C. Graziano.

#### CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF CLAYTON ON THE COMPLETION OF THE CEROW RECREATION PARK ARENA RENOVATION

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Town of Clayton on the completion of the Cerow Recreation Park Arena addition and renovation project. Additionally, I rise to recognize Leonard "Obie" O'Brien as the new wing is dedicated in his honor.

The renovation and addition were made possible through funding from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development program. The Town of Clayton also received grants from Empire State Development and the state Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historical Preservation through the Regional Economic Development Council Initiative. I am grateful that these sources of funding are available to support infrastructure updates and economic development projects in rural areas such as our district. Community gathering spaces are the foundation of our North Country community and foster a sense of neighborly spirit. This renovation will also increase the economic impact made by the park arena, attracting more visitors and events to the space, promising prosperity for the Town. Local businesses truly are the backbone of the North Country and I will continue working in Congress to support them.

The newly named Leonard "Obie" O'Brien wing is aptly dedicated in recognition of the many years of service Obie gave to the Clay-

ton sports community. Obie operated the girls' basketball program for 25 years, Clayton Minor Hockey for 14 years, and the Clayton Youth Commission for 4 years. He founded the local Maverick Ski Club and was selected as Clayton's Citizen of the Year in 2003. Regrettably, Obie passed away in June 2020 after a battle with cancer before the completion of the renovation. With the many years Obie had spent in this complex, I believe he would be honored to be remembered so fondly.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the Town of Clayton on the successful completion of this project. I hope that every person who walks through these doors looks to the example that Obie left and embodies his love for the game and above all his kindness to everyone he encountered.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE YOUNG AMERICANS FINANCIAL LITERACY ACT

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to re-introduce the Young Americans Financial Literacy Act. Financial literacy is critical to ensuring future financial responsibility. Studies have shown that 88 percent of Americans believe finance education should be taught in schools and 92 percent of K-12 teachers believe that financial education should be taught in school, but only 12 percent of teachers actually teach the subject. Yet, according to a 2020 survey, less than half of States require high school students to take a personal finance course, and less than 17 percent of high school students were required to take a semester-long personal finance course.

I believe that Congress has an opportunity and a responsibility to address the pressing needs of individuals faced with the loss of their financial stability and the challenges of economic uncertainty. This should include financial literacy education reform and long-term solutions to prevent future personal financial disasters. Research-based financial literacy education programs are needed to reach individuals at all ages and socioeconomic levels, particularly those facing unique and challenging financial situations, such as high school graduates entering the workforce, soon-to-be and recent college graduates and young families, and to address the unique needs of military personnel and their families. High school and college students who are exposed to cumulative financial education show an increase in financial knowledge, which in turn drives increasingly responsible behavior as they become young adults.

According to the Government Accountability Office, giving Americans the information they need to make effective financial decisions can be key to their well-being and to the country's economic health. The global financial crisis, when many borrowers failed to fully understand the risks associated with certain financial products, and currently, the economic hardships presented by the sudden disruptions caused by the spread of COVID-19, under-

score the need to improve individuals' financial literacy and empower all Americans to make informed financial decisions. This is especially true for young people as they are earning their first paychecks, securing student aid, and establishing their financial independence. Therefore, focusing economic education and financial literacy efforts and best practices for young people between the ages of 8 to 24 is of utmost importance.

I believe America should be leading the world with the best-educated students who will drive our economic innovation and success, so please join me in cosponsoring the Young Americans Financial Literacy Act. This act:

Establishes a grant program in the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to develop and implement financial literacy programs for young people ages 8 to 24,

Incentivizes the development of partnerships between institutions of higher education, local educational agencies, nonprofit organizations, and financial institutions to develop programs aimed at young Americans in different phases of their life;

Ensures the development of evidence-based instructional material that is geared towards targeted groups and addresses unique life situations, including bankruptcy, foreclosure, student loans, credit card misuse; and

Conducts ongoing assessment and accountability of the program over the short- and long-term to ensure that grant money achieves the greatest impact.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the Young Americans Financial Literacy Act.

#### HONORING DR. DIANE CULPEPPER FOR HER SERVICE TO LAKE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with sincere appreciation that I recognize Dr. Diane Culpepper for her leadership and service as Executive Director of Lake Technical College. After more than a decade of service, Dr. Culpepper will retire from Lake Technical College this August.

Dr. Culpepper earned both her bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Marketing and her master's degree in Vocation Administration from the University of Central Florida. She earned her Ph.D. in Workforce Education from the University of South Florida. Dr. Culpepper has taught at all levels of education from elementary to university. Before coming to Lake Technical College, Dr. Culpepper served for twenty-three years in the Career and Technical Education Department for Orange County Schools at both the school and district levels.

In 2010, Dr. Culpepper's passion for education led her to Lake Technical College. Under Dr. Culpepper's leadership, Lake Tech has increased enrollment, fostered new partnerships with business and industry, and enhanced the quality of academic offerings. Most recently, at the direction of Dr. Culpepper, in 2016, Lake Tech entered a partnership with Lake Sumter State College (LSSC) and began offering Practical Nursing, Nursing Assistant,



Paramedic, GED and ESOL programs on the LSSC South Lake and Sumter campuses. And, in the Fall of 2017, Lake Technical College opened the Center for Advanced Manufacturing to meet the growing need to prepare skilled technicians in machining, welding, fabrication, and other manufacturing careers.

Dr. Culpepper has been a dedicated servant to our community throughout her education career. She also volunteers on several boards including CareerSource Central Florida, the Manufacturing Association of Central Florida, Florida Leaders for Career and Technical Education, and the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

It has been a personal honor to work with Dr. Culpepper. Her attitude of servant leadership and her dedication to quality education for Lake Tech's students has been a testimony to her personal modesty and humility.

I am honored to recognize Dr. Culpepper and thank her for her dedication and many contributions to the Central Florida community. Her commitment to excellence, leadership and service is to be admired, and may it inspire others to follow in her footsteps. My sincerest wishes and congratulations to Dr. Diane Culpepper and her family on her retirement.

IN MEMORY OF CATHERINE ANNE  
"CATHY" GOVAN

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Cathy battled with breast cancer over the years but was in remission when she succumbed to complications due to Covid-19.

Beloved daughter of the late Edmund Joseph and Lorraine Govan.

Dear sister of the late Phillip Govan, Marge Govan, Michael (Gretchen) Govan, Anne (Dr. Soumi Eachempati) Govan Dickerson, Jim (Dorothy) Govan and Char (Brian) Bond.

A Cherished aunt of Phillip (Dr. Jamie Aprile) Gordon, Ellie (Jake and Reagan Rose) Berkey, Michael Govan, Brandon (Lezane) and Dawn Dickerson; Harrison, Carter and Gracen Govan; Kenneth, David and Alexis Bond.

Cathy was raised in Detroit and dedicated her later years to consulting Detroit mayors and serving as the executive director and founder of the Detroit Public Safety Foundation.

Donations can be made in Cathy's honor to the Detroit Public Safety Foundation.

Online condolences can be left at <http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com/>. A ceremony honoring Cathy's life will be organized this summer when COVID restrictions are eased. On behalf of the Govan family, we thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEEF 'N' BARREL RESTAURANT

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Beef

'N' Barrel Restaurant in Olean, New York, and congratulate the owners, Jim, Mike, and PJ McAfee for reaching this milestone.

The Beef 'N' Barrel is a family-owned beef and steakhouse restaurant located at 146 North Union Street in the Olean area that has been celebrated for years. During our visits to this establishment, we have been impressed by the ownership and staff, as well as the quality of service and products they provide. For fifty years, the restaurant has kept its doors open and satisfied customers, whether they were area visitors or life-long residents.

The restaurant opened in May of 1965 under the ownership of Neil and Denis Goodemote but was later sold to Jim McAfee in 1971. The restaurant has expanded over the years, from seating for fifty patrons to room for over three hundred in its current location.

The McAfee family has operated the Beef 'N' Barrel with hard work, dedication, and great effort over the years. We congratulate them on their extraordinary efforts to keep this restaurant growing and thriving, providing a delicious meal to all who visit. Whether it be a daily special, item from the beef bar, burger or other specialty, the quality of food and service received is outstanding.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body join me to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Beef 'N' Barrel Restaurant in Olean, New York, and congratulate the owners, Jim, Mike, and PJ McAfee for reaching this milestone.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF DOROTHY ANN MROWKA

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the life of the late Dorothy Ann Mrowka, of Colchester, Connecticut, who passed away at her home on April 29, 2021 at the age of 78. Known by everyone as Dot, her involvement in the civic and cultural communities of eastern Connecticut made her beloved by many.

Born in New London, CT on October 13, 1942, Dot spent her entire life in eastern Connecticut. Committed to education, she earned a Masters degree in Business Administration which lead to a successful career as a computer programmer at AETNA insurance. She moved to Colchester in 1973 and then married her beloved husband Lucien Mrowka a short time later. They were married for 38 years before he sadly predeceased her in 2012.

Truly, there is not an organization in Colchester that has not been touched by Dot. She was a devout parishioner at St. Andrews Church serving on the Ladies Guild and the First Friday Rosary Guild. Dot was an active member of both the St. Joseph's Polish Society and Colchester Grange No. 78. She was very involved with the Colchester Democratic Town Committee, and the Federation of Democratic Women. She was the recipient of the Ella Grasso award by Connecticut Democrats not once, but twice and selected to serve on the Democratic State Central Committee. Her service to the community did not stop there. Dot was a fierce defender of a free and

fair election and served Colchester residents as the Registrar of Voter for 25 years. Many happy marriages began with her proclamation of "I now pronounce you husband and wife" as she served as a Justice of the Peace. Her selfless service to her community is unparalleled.

I met Dot early in my career in Congress, and her friendship over the years has been invaluable. There are few in this district that knew their community as well as Dot did. She was a tireless campaign volunteer who never shied away from all the "nuts and bolts" of organizing a headquarters, leading phone banks, lit drops or election day logistics. The election eve "get out the vote" spaghetti supper at the Colchester Polish Club was a must stop for Democratic candidates at every level—including House Speaker NANCY PELOSI in 2006. The void her passing leaves is unmeasurable. I know her memory will continue through her family—her son Jeffrey Watson; her daughter, Tammy and her husband Ricky Keller; her brother Joseph Ploszaj; her sisters Peggy Fedus and Mary Lou Johnson, and her two beloved grandchildren Tyler Kelly and Taylor Watson.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent constituents as honorable and impactful as Dot. While we all mourn her loss, we can at least find solace that her story, memory, and purpose lives on in through countless others. I find it fitting that we, the People's House, add her name and character into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and ask that the entire House join me in recognizing the life of Dorothy Ann Mrowka, never forgetting the importance of building our connections with others.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC  
OF AZERBAIJAN

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan on its 103rd anniversary of their annual Republic Day as well as its 30th anniversary of independence from the Soviet Union.

I do not want my good wishes to be seen as ignoring the issues currently going on between Azerbaijan and Armenia. I am putting my faith and confidence that the hostilities are resolved, and the appropriate borders will be restored. Independence for Azerbaijan is a time to reflect on the territorial sovereignty and right to independence for other nations as well, as liberty benefits everyone.

Azerbaijan is an important partner in the region. I find this year's occasion special because it marks 30 years since Soviet occupation. The Soviet Union and its ideas of communism subjected millions of people to authoritarian rule, stripping them of their natural, human rights. However, the people of Azerbaijan have successfully emerged from this dark period in history and continue to be a shining example of democracy and independence.

It's important that the people of the United States recognize the nations that emerge from authoritarian rule to contribute to the ever-growing push for liberty and self-governance. Azerbaijan, after being subject to centuries of



oppressive rule under the Russian Empire and USSR, were rewarded with the gift of independence. That is why this week we can proudly stand with our friends in Azerbaijan to celebrate their 103rd Republic Day and share in our collective belief in freedom.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in celebrating Azerbaijan's Republic Day and in recognizing our shared commitment to freedom, democracy, and the principle of self-governance. I would like to share my most heartfelt congratulations on this momentous occasion.

#### HONORING FLORIDA'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S GOLD STAR FAMILIES

### HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Army Sergeant Henry Levon Brown. Sgt. Brown was killed in action the 8th of April 2003 south of Baghdad, Iraq. He was the proud husband of Army Specialist JoDona Brown and son of Elm and Rhonda Brown. Sgt. Brown was known to be a quiet and religious man focused on his duty as a soldier and role as a loving husband. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice for the freedom of our Nation and all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Army Sergeant Ed Santini. Sgt. Santini was killed in action the 17th of March 2007 near Baghdad, Iraq. He was the proud husband of Astrid Santini and father of Nayomi and Valerie. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Sergeant Jeffrey David Smithson. Sgt. Smithson was killed in the line of duty the 11th of December 2013 near St. Augustine, Florida. He was the proud husband of Celeste Ann and father of Madeline, Christian, Jeremy, and Colin. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Major Gene Andrew Redding. Maj. Redding died the 6th of September 2016 near Lawtey, Florida. He was the proud father of Bryson James and Ella Grace. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Army Staff Sergeant John A. Reiners. Ssg. Reiners was killed in action the 13th of February 2010 in Zhari Province, Iraq. He was the proud husband of Casey and father of Lex. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Army Captain Leroy Campbell. Cpt. Campbell was killed in the line of duty the

17th of September 1956 in California. He was the proud father of Ms. Lynn Vernon. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Private First Class Donald "Wayne" Vincent. Pfc. Vincent was killed in action the 25th of July 2009 in the Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was the proud son of Lee and Betty Sue of Gainesville, Florida. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

I am proud to honor the service and sacrifice of Lance Corporal Philip Paul Clark. LCpl. Clark was killed in action the 18th of May 2010 in the Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was the proud husband of Ashton Guenther and son of Mike and Tammy Clark of Gainesville, Florida. He is greatly missed by friends, family, and community members alike. We thank him for his ultimate sacrifice to our Nation for the freedom of all Americans.

#### REMEMBERING REV. E. BAXTER MORRIS

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Rev. E. Baxter Morris, who passed away on May 2. His funeral took place on Saturday, May 15, at the church that he led for nearly half a century. Many of us in this House knew Rev. Morris as a gracious host when we traveled to Montgomery, Alabama, on the annual Faith and Politics Institute Civil Rights Pilgrimage. He and his congregants at the historic First Baptist Church welcomed us with a very moving service followed by a home-cooked meal that made us feel like we were part of their community. I spoke with him at those lunches and, like so many others, came to see his wisdom, patience, and grace. I know that Rev. Morris, who was the congregation's longest-serving pastor, will be deeply missed by all who knew him and worshipped with him.

One of my most cherished memories of congressional pilgrimages to the First Baptist Church and other now-sacred places is sharing the experience with my dear friend John Lewis. John would remind us of the time in youth when he helped organize and lead the Freedom Rides. That effort began 60 years ago this spring. In late May 1961, around 1,500 community members, Freedom Riders, and civil rights activists had gathered to worship at First Baptist Church, when they were besieged by a mob of as many as 3,000 white supremacists. Joining John Lewis inside were Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Fred Shuttlesworth, Diane Nash, James Farmer, and the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, who was the senior pastor of the church at that time. It took a historic intervention by President John F. Kennedy and Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, which involved calling out the Alabama National Guard, to break that siege and save the lives of those inside. That incident, known now to history as the First Baptist Church Siege,

was a pivotal moment in the effort to desegregate public transportation across the South.

Thus when Rev. Morris became the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in 1972, it already had a storied history. He did his utmost to preserve that history and ensure that his congregants and visitors alike never forgot the important role that First Baptist Church played in the march for freedom, equality, and civil rights in our country. Indeed, at the lunches I attended with John and other Members of Congress, Rev. Morris would remind us that his church had been founded shortly after emancipation by those who had endured slavery. When a fire destroyed their original church building, the congregants banded together to build the current structure, donating bricks for its construction. For that reason, it is also known as the Brick-a-Day Church.

Rev. Morris understood that his pastoral work reached far beyond the walls of First Baptist Church. He regularly volunteered his time as a mentor throughout the Montgomery community, and he served as Chaplain for the Montgomery Police Department for more than two decades. The Operation Good Shepherd program organized with other religious leaders from across the city endeavors to help law enforcement de-escalate encounters with residents and promote cooperation instead of confrontation. I know that his presence and contributions will be greatly missed across Montgomery and its region.

I join in offering my condolences to Rev. Morris' wife, Rebbe, and their family as well as the entire First Baptist Church community. I will never forget the wisdom he shared with us or his warm and kind welcome and the wonderful meals we had over the years fixed by the members of First Baptist.

Now, he and John and Martin and Ralph and so many other great men and women of justice and courage march on together in eternal peace.

#### REMEMBERING AND HONORING JIM WALTERS

### HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 25, 2021*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Jim Walters who passed away on February 22nd at the age of 83.

Throughout his life, Jim was no stranger to making an impact and improving the lives of others. Jim moved to Gainesville, Georgia in 1971 where he raised his family and became a pillar of philanthropy and generosity in this community.

He was a pioneer in the Georgia Industrial Loan Association, owning many loan offices and businesses throughout the state and country.

Through his success, Jim gave back to his community in countless ways.

He served on Georgia's Board of Natural Resources, the Georgia Ports Authority, and 40 different nonprofit organizations.

He mentored, encouraged, supported and inspired all who met him, and Georgia will be forever touched by his legacy.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.